GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4893
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
FOREIGN POLICY
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the changes made in our foreign policy during the last three years; and

(b) the impact thereof especially with regard to our neighbouring countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a) & (b) Conduct of foreign policy is a dynamic and continuous exercise based on a realistic and pragmatic assessment of politico-strategic and socio-economic milieu around us. While basic principles and objectives of our foreign policy provide the element of continuity, our priorities and focus undergo changes in response to new challenges and developments around the world and in the neighbourhood. Of late, effects of such changes during the last three years have contributed to greater understanding and appreciation of our policies by our neighbours, and our forging a qualitatively new relationship with major powers of the world.